Mae West Play scripts Ac. 16,215 "Sex" (1926)

838

"SEX"

A COMEDY-DRAMA
6 Scenes 3 ACTS
by
MAE WEST.

ROCKY

You ought to be lousywith coin. You aint depending on any particular lady friend for your jack. What's the matter aint the police givin you fifth fifty on the graft you collect?

MANLY

AW.

ROCKY

Dont try to tell me- -

MANLY

Keep your shirt on-take a tip onld man and watch your step.

ROCKY

What the - -

MANLY

Who's the swell dame you been running around with the last week? Some class to you picking up a jane at the Ritz-the police have got you spotted.

ROCKY

What do you know?

MANLY

The last one you picked up she's the kind'll squeal.

ROCKY

I'll take the chance.

MANLY

Yea? What's the lay?

ROCKY

What's it to you?

MANLY

That's enough.

ROCKY

Are you trying to shake me down?

MANLY

I'm giving you a tip straight.

ROCKY

You'll not get any of my money.

MANLY

Your money? (Laughs)

ROCKY

Yes mine. And you stop butting into my affairs.

MANLY

Your affairs? Say you're none to safe here yourself-get that and get it straight.

ROCKY

Well it'll take more than a low down graft collector like you to tell it to me.

MANLY

Yea? Alright. If I cant collect I'll send someone in who will. (Exit Manly)

ROCKY

Can you tie that Curly?

CURLY

Let him squawk. He's looking for a meal.

ROCKY

Come on snap into it. Get some duds on and come up to the Ritz. with me.

CURLY

Not to-night Rocky I'm broke.

ROCKY

With the British Fleet in the harbor-what's wrong? Agnes holding out on you-you should worry-Montreal is full of janes glad to supply the bank roll for a pretty kid like you.

CURLY

I'm kinder used to Agnes,I'd hate to change now.

ROCKY

Aint you the kind hearted dearie.

CURLEY

Well I got no kick coming,I've got it pretty soft,Agnes don't hold out on me. (Enter Agnes)

ROCKY

Hello Agnes.

AGNES

Oh there you are Curley,I thotI'd find you here.

CURLEY

Alright dear I'll be right with you.

AGNES

Where's Margy?

ROCKY

In her room, I guess she's awake. (Exit Agnes)

CURLEY

I'll see you later Rocky. (Opens door) Here comes Dawson.

DAWSON

(Enters) Hello. (Enter Agnes)

ROCKY

Hello Dawson.

CURLEY

Hello Dawson.

AGNES

Hello Dawson.

CURLEY

I'll be around to-morrow Rocky. Good-night.(Exit Curley and Agnes)

DAWSON

Business must be good the way you got this dump all dolled up.

ROCKY

Dont call this joint a dump.

DAWSON

I met Manly outside and he said you were a pretty tough customer.

ROCKY

Yeah?

DAWSON

If you think you can run this joint without giving up, you've got another think coming.

ROCKY

Look here, Dawson, I'm a pretty good sort of scout,but I don't like being hounded by a guy like Manly.

DAWSON

Cut the argument and pay up.

ROCKY

Pay up? Hey Margy-Margy.

MARGY

What do you want?

ROCKY

Come out here. Pay up. (Enter Margy)

MARGY

Well what's all the noise?

ROCKY

Dawson wants commission.

MARGY

Commission? Is that all he wants? Let him try and get it.

DAWSON

Now look here- You listen to me.

MARGY

Just a minute,I dont want any unnecessary noise around here, I had a pretty busy night last night and my nerves need quiet. (Cig. Bus)

DAWSON

What do you think this is an ash can? Don't try to pull that wise stuff on me. You been getting away with murder.

MARGY

I dont see why I should pay for the priviledge of working.(Bus) You got about all You're goin to get out of me.

DAWSON

Well if that's the way you feel about it, we'll see how far you get.

MARGY

Don't slam the door on the way out. (Exit Dawson) He did.

ROCKY

Looks like he's going to start something.

MARGY

Well he can start it and I'll finish it. How many times have I told youto keep him out of here.

ROCKY

Well I didn't ask him to come up. Where are my collars?(Exit) Hey Marge where are my collars? Marge come on and find them for me

MARGY

Find them yourself, they're your collars.

ROCKY

Why dont you leave things where I put them.(Enter) You didn't even put buttons in my shirt.

MARGY

What do you think I am your wife? The trouble with you, you've been spoiled. To many janes been waiting on you. Here's one jane don't fall fot that stuff.

ROCKY

Is that so?

MARGY

If there's any waiting on around here, I'm the one that's going to get it. I'm a jane that craves service.

ROCKY

Aint you funny.

MARGY

Don't wise crack at me,because I'm about ready to give you the air.

ROCKY

Give me the air? Give me the air? You cant get away with that so easy.

MARGY

No?

ROCKY

Not after what I've done for you.

MARGY

What did you ever do for me?

ROCKY

Say who meets the guys and steers them down here to you? Me. Who's the business head of this here dump? Me. Who raised your price? Me. And you want to know what I did? I started you didn't I? Yes, and I didn't only start you, I made you, get me, I made you.

MARGY

You made me what I am to-day, I hope your satisfied. I'll admit your a great guy and all that.

ROCKY

You do admit I'm a great guy.

MARGY

Oh without question. But just the same I'm getting tired of you and this dump.

ROCKY

Not good enough for you eh?

MARGY

Oh I'm going somewhere where I can play around with the heavy sugar daddied and see life and get something for it, instead of sitting around here night after night waiting for your cheap bunch.

ROCKY

Gee, getting high brow. Want to play rich. You're alright where you are.

MARGY

Think so?

ROCKY

Getting some fool ideas about bein decent eh?

MARGY

Suppose I am.

ROCKY

Baby you'll never be anything but what you are. So that's that.

MARGY

If a jane like Nan Chalmers can do it I certainly can.

ROCKY

You mean the mpl that used to live next door?

MARGY

Yes. She had a guy she thot she was in love with and thot she needed and then she got wise. Now she's married to an old guy, and she's got a mansion up near Boston and a limousine and diamonds and everything she wants.

ROCKY

And wait until the old gink finds out what she is. Watch him unload her.

MARGY

How's he going to find out?

ROCKY

Easy kid easy. Plenty of nice people ready to spill the good news

MARGY

But suppose he really loves her?

ROCKY

Don't make me laugh. It cant be done. Anyway his friends and family wont stand for it.Listen you lose this idea about being decent. Stick to your trade, kid, you were made for it. Rocky wouldn't steer you wrong.

MARGY

No, Rocky wouldn't steer me wrong. Rocky's just a wise guy, at least he thinks he is. Anyway my minds made up and that's that. What's the idea of dolling up? You look like you have a heavy date. Meetin the society dame Manly was talkin about? The one you picked up at the opera?

ROCKY

You cant tell, maybe,yes, maybe no.

MARGY

Well good luck to you you'll need it.

ROCKY

She knows a nifty guy when she sees one. I'm class babe. Just look at that figure.

MARGY

Take it to her and let her look at it. I'm tired of looking at it.

ROCKY

Theres plenty of dames ready to take me in.

MARGY

White ones? Just take the tooth brush and park the body some place else.

ROCKY

Where are you going to-night?

MARGY

I dont know.

ROCKY

What time are you coming back?

MARGY

I dont know. Maybe I wont come back at all.

ROCKY

Now dont pull that stuff on me, because you aren't going to get away from me so easy. You're mine and you belong to me. You try to get away from me and I'll plant you under the daises.

MARGY

What are you trying to do? Scare someone? Just because you croaked a guy and got away with it dont think I'm afraid of you. You know if I start talking, I can put a rope around that lily white neck of yours.

ROCKY

You wouldn't dare squawk on a fellow for that. Besides I know you too well. You haven't the heart to turn anyone up. If I thot you had, I'd finish you now. I wont get any more for killing two than I will for killing one.

MARGY

Dont be to sure about that. Now I'm going to give you a little inside information. I'm going to leave you the first chance I get.

Rocky

What are we doing, telling jokes to each other? Get that idea out of your head about leaving me, because if you did , I'd g get you.Lose this idea about being decent. Your just what you are and that's all you ever will be. There's only one thing about you to hold a guy, and outside of that your merely nothing. Want to give Rocky a little kiss before he goes, you beautiful thing you?

MARGY

Go kiss your society dame. (Enter Agnes)

ROCKY

Thanks. (Exit)

MARGY

Hello kid.

AGNES

Margy, I just wanted to give you some more money to keep for me. There's five there. (Bus)

MARGY

Alright, I'll put it with the rest.

AGNES

I dont know what I'd do if it wasn't for you. You cant trust anyon

MARGY

Good motto Agnes, trust no one and you'll never be gyped.

AGNES

I wonder what Curley would do if he ever found out?

MARGY

What that you are putting a little away for yourself? Dont suppose I hand over the day's receipts to Rocky.

AGNES

No, it aint only that. I'm planning to go away as soon as I have enough.

MARGY

Going where?

AGNES

Back home.

MARGY

Home? Do you think you can get away with it?

AGNES

Why not? They think I'm working for a living.

MARGY

Well aint you?

AGNES

I manage to send them a few dollars once in a while.

MARGY

Listen Agnes. They'll find out and then it will be worse than this for you.

AGNES

Home. It seems like years since I've been there.

MARGY

You've spilled the tale about the old folks and the little white cottage so often kid, I can almost see the place. What's the use of breaking their hearts as well as your own?

AGNES

But I cant go on. I- Oh Margy, I wasnt meant for this sort of thing.

MARGY

If I was as dissatisfied as you are I'd join the Salvation Army.

FIRST MAN

(Knock) (MARGY opens door) Hello Margy.

MARGY

I'm sorry but I'm not entertaining to-night.

FIRST MAN

I extra come down to see you. Cant you help a fellow out?

MARGY

I'm sorry.

MARGY

But listen g Flie- - -

MARGY

Good night.

FIRST MAN

Je'es.(Closes door) (Church bells) (Agnes cries)

MARGY

Well what's the matter?

AGNES

Those bells, every time they ring it seems as if- -Oh I-cant stand it Margy, I cant stand it. Back home the little old churchk-

MARGY

(Shade Bus) Dont give me that church business again. You'll have me going back to the old homestead.

AGNES

Oh, Margy if you'd only understand.

MARGY

I understand that you got to get a grip on yourself or you'll neve get anywhere.

AGNES

Anywhere in this life?

MARGY

Why not? There's a chance of rising to the top of every profession

AGNES

Profession? You call this- - Oh Gawd.

MARGY

Yes, I said rising to the top of my profession. Why not? Others do it, why cant I? Why cant you? When I think of the dames riding around in swell limousines, buying imported gowns, living at the swellest hotels, terrible looking janes too. You know if I have to I can put on the ritz too. Course I dont pull that stuff around here, not at these prices. And there's nothing the matter with you. You're a pretty refined kid. Come from good folks, at least you say you do. It's all a question of getting some guy to pay for the certain business, that's all.

AGNES

Oh, that's what you mean to do?

MARGY

That's what I'm going to do. I'm sick of this town and everything in it.

AGNES

Yeh and how are you going to find the rich man?

MARGY

Advertise for him in the daily papers. Tack a sign up around the town for him. Say either your so wise we cant catch up with you or your the original Dumb Dora.

AGNES

Oh I see what you mean.

MARGY

Oh you do.

AGNES

I'm sorry I made you angry Margy. You've been pretty good to me and when I get back home- - - -

MARGY

When you get back home old girl, you'll be buying a thru ticket back here, mark my words. They wont let you go straight, they'll hold you up as an example. I tried it. I know.

AGNES

You're wrong Margy, and maybe some day- - -

MARGY

Yeh, and until that some day comes, I'm satisfied to be wrong. going out to-night?

AGNES

No I'm staying in with Curly. I feel I'm kinder doing him wrong, leaving him like this, and that's whats holding me back.

MARGY

Curly?

AGNES

Yes, he'd be lost without me.

MARGY

The lost and found department will take care of him alright.

AGNES

I loved him Margy in the beginning and- -

MARGY

Loved him in the beginning, and you thot you couldnt live without him and then you found out you couldnt live with him. That's the trouble with women like us. They have a tag on them. Do it alone Agnes, there's more chance of getting ahead.

AGNES

I'll leave Curly enough money- -

MARGY

Let the big bum go to work.

AGNES

But he aint very strong Marge.

MARGY

Would be tough on that guy if he had to get a job for himself. Well you run along to your Curly, I've got to fix this dress up.

AGNES

Alright, good-night Marge.

MARGY

Good night. (Red and Flossie knock)

MARGY

Open up that door and lets see what this is.(Agnes opens door) (Enter Red and Flossie)

AGNES

My goodness, its fighting Red.

RED

Say I want to talk to you.

MARGY

Well, shoot, what is it?

RED

I want you to lay off my man.

MARGY

~~Sailor Dan from Kansas~~. Which one?

RED

Sailor Dan from Kansas.

MARGY

Sailor Dan from Kansas? Never heard of him.

RED

Oh, yes you have.

MARGY

I'll tell you whether I have or not. Hey Aggie, over on that table you'll find a little book.

AGNES

No, it aint here.

MARGY

Red, you look in the second drawer, and Flossie give us a cigarette.(Bus) Hey, just the book, just the book. Sailor Dan from Kansas,- Oh sailor Dan from Kansas. Yeh sailor Dan from Kansas, flat feet, asthma, check came back, O, baby I'll make you a present of that bird, he's yours.

RED

Well you better.

MARGY

Now dont be a girl like that.

MARGY

Say Floss, do you still go around with Oklahoma Jack?

FLOSSIE

Oh, he got married.

MARGY

Yes, but you didn't answer my question.

RED AND FLOSSIE

Well the nerve of her- -(Ad lib exit)

AGNES

Good night Marge.

MARGY

Good night . (Exit Agnes)

JONES

(Knock)

MARGY

Come in.

JONES

(Enter) Well, well if it isnt the beautiful blonde mamma they're all raving about. I always did like blondes, I dont care how they get that way, just so long as they're blondes.

MARGY

Sorry, but you'll have to go.

JONES

You dont mean to tell me your going to give me the gate? Oh, mamma, you dont know what you're missing.

MARGY

You wouldn't fool me?

JONES

If I go now, can I come back later?

MARGY

Yeah, you can come back.

JONES

In one hour I'll be back to the girl I left behind me.O, baby, I've
got what you crave.

MARGY

You wouldn't fool me?

JONES

Listen kid, Jones is my monicker, clean underwear and everything. Over the river. (Exit Jones) (Phone)

MARGY

Hello, hello. O hello there kid, how are you? Great, great. Where are you? Where? Oh the Tremaine Cafe. Who's with you? Who? Oh, and how. Yeh. Oh in about fifteen minutes. Well say I've got to get dressed. Yeh,alright. Good bye kid.

GREGG

(Knocks and enters) Hello Marge. How are you?

MARGY

When did you get in?

GREGG

Oh, I got into port this morning. Couldn't think of spending my shore leave with anyone but you ,old gal. Warm in here. Mind if I take my jacket off?

MARGY

Sorry, but I'm not entertaining company to-night Gregg.

GREGG

Oh, dont consider me company. Just treat me as one of the family. I'm back with three months pay and aching for a good time. You'll and I'll have plenty of sport.

MARGY

I'm in no mood for sport Gregg.

GREGG

Oh, you're out of sorts. Anything on your mind?

MARGY

You wouldn't understand.

GREGG

I'd hate to say you're not telling the truth, but you're out of sorts. I'll just play a tune on the jolly old music box, that'll cheer you up a bit.

MARGY

Gregg, if you want to do me a favor, you'll get out of here as quick as you can.

GREGG

Now you dont mean that.

MARGY

Do I look as if I were kidding?

GREGG

What's the matter? Some of the neighbors kids been stealing your marbles?

MARGY

What is that supposed to be-one of your English wise cracks?

GREGG

No,no. It's rather clever tha. Dont be angry with me old dear. I didn't mean any harm, just couldn't resist the temptation of a bright remark. Oh, I've got something for yo u, wait until you see this,wait until you see this.

MARGY

Well, come on and lets see it.

GREGG

You'll get it , you'll get it. I dont mind telling you I had an awful time saving it for you. Why all the women were fighting for it.

MARGY

It better be good.

GREGG

It's good alright. It's the best you could get, but you've got to be very careful not to bend it.(Bus)

MARGY

What a bird, what a bird. How did you know I wanted one?

GREGG

Oh, I know your little weaknesses.

MARGY

You know too much. Where did you get it honey?

GREGG

Away down south.

MARGY

Wont I burn the janes up when I wear this.

GREGG

Now you're happy suppose you spill the trouble.

MARGY

Oh you wouldnt understand.

GREGG

Never can tell old gal.

MARGY

I'm sick of this town and everything that goes with it. Damn him.

GREGG

Oh the gentleman friend eh?

MARGY

Gentleman-hell. You're the first one to ever call him that

GREGG

Well of course, I never met him. Why dont you chuck the bugger. Leave him and travel around a bit. You'd soon forget him. Good lord, gal, I've forgotten a hell of a lot in the same way. I'm serious about this travelling around. It would be good for you. But maybe you dont care for travelling.

MARGY

The way I feel now I'd take a trip to hell if I could get a return ticket.

GREGG

Oh well I dont expect to go as far asthat at present. But seriously speaking, you could make a lot of money travelling around with me. All the gals who are following the fleet are getting rich,and besides they see the world and its ceilings.

MARGY

Sounds good. I'll think it over.

GREGG

Oh its a sweet existance. I wish I were a gal. You know I'd love to meet up with you in every port I go into. And I could help you a lot by dropping a word here and there among the boys.

MARGY

Sort of an agent.

GREGG

Oh, I wouldnt put it like that. But maybe you and I could hit it up together eh?

MARGY

What abe you trying to do, set yourself in for a home?

GREGG

No,no.

MARGY

Never mind. You wouldnt be the first.

SECOND MAN

(KNOCK) (Margy opens the door) Hello dearie dont you remember me?

MARGY

No I dont remember you.

SECOND MAN

What you mean to say you dont remember me?

MARGY

No you yellow bellied piece of cheese I dent remember you.

SECOND MAN

Yellow bellied? I thot you said you didnt remember me?

MARGY

What are you doing?

GREGG

Locking up.

MARGY

What's the idea?

GREGG

These interuptions are damned annoying. We dont want to be disturbed. I expect to be here for a long time.

MARGY

Well you're out of luck.

GREGG

Just exactly what do you mean?

MARGY

I'm going out.

GREGG

I'd hate to be disappointed. I put myself out a lot to come and see you, I dont mind telling you.

MARGY

That's your hard luck. Here's your jacket.

GREGG

Oh, I say.

MARGY

Come on. Put it on.

GREGG

You cant really meanthat you know.

MARGY

No, I'm just exercising my lungs.

GREGG

Well of course if you insist. Just to show you I'm not a bad sort I'll take you down to the Black Cat Cafe and spend the money I was going to spend here.

MARGY

Alright, only I'll let you take me to the Tremaine instead.

GREGG

Anywhere you say old dear.

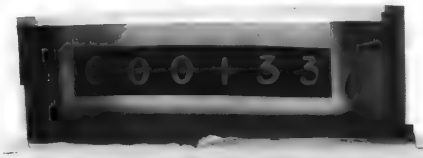
MARGY

Take that key out of the dood. Put it on the outside.

GREGG

But I say old dear, it's a hell of a trick to lay on a fellow.

CURTAIN



CURTAIN UP

ROCKY

(Enters) Oho-Oho.(Bus) Alright,come right in. I that maybe some of my friends were parked around here. I'm good natured and they take advantage of it.(Clara enters)

CLARA

Its rather dark in here.

ROCKY

Just a minute and I'll light up.(Bus) There we are.

CLARA

What an interesting place you have.

ROCKY

Oh, the diggings aint so bad. Sit down and make yourself comfortab You're going to be right at home here you know.

CLARA

I feel very much at home already.

ROCKY

Let me take your wraps.

CLARA

Thank you.

ROCKY

Sit down and make yourself comfortable. Nothinswell about this joint, but you can do as you please, and there's no one to put a damper on the works.

CLARA

It's so wonderful here in Montreal, I'd like to stay here forever.

ROCKY

Is this your first visit to the town?

CLARA

Yes.

ROCKY

Well I'm going to fix it so you wont forget it as long as you live. Where is your home?

CLARA

My home is in Conn.

ROCKY

You're fibbing to me, but its alright. I can stand for almost anything from a woman as beautiful as you are.

CLARA

You do say the nicest things.

ROCKY

Thanks. When are you going to tell me your real name?

CLARA

I have told you, Clara Smith is my real name.

ROCKY

A two year old would know that was phoney.

CLARA

What's in a name I'm here with you.

ROCKY

That ought to be enough for any man.

CLARA

You have the most persuasive ways.

ROCKY

So you wont tell me what your real name is?

CLARA

You must not ask me so many questios. I'm here to enjoy myself.

ROCKY

And beleive me your going to have the time of your young life. We'll start off with a little drink, that's always a good start for any party. How about it Clara dear?

CLARA

Clara dear?

ROCKY

You must get used to me getting familiar like.

CLARA

You do say the cutest things.

ROCKY

Thanks. How about that drink?

CLARA

Yes. I believe I would enjoy a drink.

ROCKY

You'll enjoy this alright, pure Canadian Club, and its got a kick like a mule. Drink.

CLARA

This is so thrilling. I love it because its so unconventional.

ROCKY

Its worse than that. There's nothing like sneaking away and stealing a march once in a while is there?

CLARA

Its wonderful.

ROCKY

I knew you'd love a thrill so I'm going to give you one. Do you know what street this house is on?

CLARA

No.

ROCKY

Its on Caidoux street. You've heard of Caidoux street havent you?

CLARA

I dont believe I have.

ROCKY

Well Caidoux street is the most notorious street in Montreal. Its in the heart of the red light district.

CLARA

How perfectly thrilling.

ROCKY

I knew that would strike you right.

CLARA

Its such a departure from the usual course of life so daring.

ROCKY

Anything for a thrill dear. A new sensation eh?I bet you get plenty of them on these little trips eh?

CLARA

Anything to get away from the dull monotonous routine of my daily existence. Always doing the same thing in the same way. Seeing the same people day in and day out almost drives me insane. Yes,I do enjoy a little fling once in a while. It sorts of breaks the monotony.

ROCKY

I'm sure lucky to have met you and its me that knows it.

CLARA

You say the most wonderful things.

ROCKY.

Not half as wonderful as I'd like to say to you. But I suppose after you leave Montreal I'll never see you again. What a beautiful soft hand you have. See this is funny,here I am falling in love with a married woman, and when you get back home and meet your husband,I fade right out of the picture. You'll forget you ever met me,and I'll be here in Montreal just pining away.

CLARA

Don't be foolish you're certainly not falling in love with a woman almost old enough to be----well anyway you know I'm much older than you.

ROCKY.

What's age got to do with it? You're wonderful.You need someone likeme,someone to cheer you up and say nice things to you. Someonewho understands you.Someone who would really appreciate you.

CLARA

Yes I know I do. I'm neglected too much. You see I'm married to a tired business man who gives all his time to making money,and who's years my senior. I have everything that money can buy. every luxury, but the one thing I need most of all-love. Of course you understand.

ROCKY

Let's have another drink. I know just how you feel dear.

CLARA

Dear? Oh don't make it quite so strong. I'm not used to being petted in that way my dear boy.You think we are quite safe here?

ROCKY.

Why honey what do you mean?

CLARA

I mean safe from intrusion. You know in such a notorious district I'm afraid the police may come in.

ROCKY.

Don't worryabout that honey . After you drink this next drink you won't give a rap if the whole Montreal police force comesin.

CLARA.

But suppose they did come and there was a scandal? Think of my poor husband.

ROCKY

What's a husband or two among freinds? Drap yourself around this Atta girl. A few minutes from now and you won't care for a whole flock of husbands.

CLARA

Wasn't that drinkterribly strong?

ROCKY

Of course not. Come on over here babe and lets get together. Now I'd like to be around you all the time.Can't you take me back home with you?

CLARA

Way tou silly boy how could I? My husband would find out.

ROCKY

Couldn't I play chauffeur to you or some other excuse to be around you? I'll promise you a new thrill every day babe.

CLARA

You say the sweetest things.(Kiss)

ROCKY

Come on lets have another drink.

CLARA

No I think I've had too much already. I'm not used to drinking so fast- I feel sick.

ROCKY

Right over there babe, help yourself.(Exit Clara)Smith(EnterX)

CLARA

(Enter) Oh dear I'm sicke I feel terrible.

ROCKY

Come here dear. Is my baby feeling sick? Sit down and I'll give you something that will fix you fine. Just this one drink is what you need.

CLARA

No, no I don't want any more.

ROCKY

But dear you must take this one, its just what you need. It 'll fix you proper. I'll take good care of you babe.

CLARA

You say the nicest things.

ROCKY

That's the way you'll be perfect in a moment.

CLARA

I hope so

ROCKY

I know so.

CLARA

I'm getting so diz y- everything is just blank- I feel like I'm in space.

ROCKY

Feel like your passing out?

CLARA

Oh dear-I-I-(Clara) faints) (Rockys bus. and exit.)

CLARA

(Rise and exit to bedroom.)

AGNES

(Outside) Margy Margy. (enters)

MARGY

(Enters with Gregg. Ad lib.) Oh hello kid.

AGNES

I thot I heard someone in here Margy.

MARGY

Wait till I light up. Maybe Rocky's back.

GREGG

Then maybe I'd better go.

MARGY

I'm paying the freight on this joint and what I say goes. Come on and have a drink with us Agnes, Her Name Agnes, lives across the hall her idea of a good time is listening to the church bells ring and having a good cry She's all right when you know her . Sit down

GREGG

Anything you say your the boss.

MARGY

You bet your sweet life I am. Anything I say around here goes. aint that right Agne ?

AGNES

Yes.

MARGY

Take off your jacket and stay.

GREGG

On the level ? Here take this.(gives money)

MARGY

What's this for?

GREGG

Saves you the trouble of taking it while I'm asleep.

MARGY

You're thoughtful anyway.

GREGG

I always go the easiest way about everything.

MARGY

What a man what a man (kiss)Pardon me, pardon me while I go down t the English Channel.(Kiss) Now to show you I'm a good sport I'll have have a drink.

GREGG

That's a jolly good idea.

MARGY

That is if the boy freind hasn't made love to it.

GREGG

This boy freind seems to be sort of a necessity.

MARGY

Not a necessity a luxury. Where are you going?

AGNES

I'm afreid that Curly might miss me.

MARGY

Do him good.

AGNES

If you don't mind I'd rather---

MARGY

Gein to crab the party?

AGNES

I'd like to good night Margy.

MARGY

I told you her idea of a good time didn't I?

GREGG

I think she's jolly considerate, threes always a crowd.

MARGY

So long as your satisfied I don't car e.(drink)

GREGG

Cheerio, You know Margy we go on quite a trip from here. Panama Cuba and Trinadad, and I was thinking how wonderful it would be if I could meet you there. You know what we were talking about following th fleet . I wish you'd do that.

MARGY

Trinadad? What kind of a jungle is it?

GREGG

It's an island just North of South America.

MARGY

Oh where the parrots and the monkeys come from.

GREGG

It's a place where you can live cheap. Why down there you can get a room and bath, a wife and a bottle of liquor for two dollars.

MARGY

It must be bum liquor.

GREGG

It's a place where a girl like you,would make a gortune,say thi k f ee it ever . All the girls down there are half breds or a bit off color. I'ts the place for a gil like you, you'd coin money.

MARGY

I'll think it over old dear, I promise you I will my word.

GREGG

Iwish you would, you don't know how much i want you . Damn you you'd don't know how much I want to be with you. You know every time I go to Montreal I spend my shore leave with you, and I could could do the same thing any place we go to. (Kiss) Wgere are you going?

MARGY.

I'm goin to put on a good hot tune and have a little dance.

GREGG

By jove your certainly showing me a good time.

MARGY

Baby youre goin to write this night down in your diary in red ink. (Dance business)

GREGG

I'm good on swimming but short on stepping.

MARGY

Have another drink.

GREGG

God girl your beautiful, you've got the kind of beauty that makes savage out of a man . Make him feel as though he'd like to take you in his arms and tear and crush you.

CLARA

(off stage) Groans.

GREGG

What's that?

MARGY

What's what

GREGG

I that I heard someone groan.

MARGY

Oh you're the greatest guy for hearing things(Clara groans) Well I'll be damned

GREGG

Whats up.?

MARGY

He's pulled something.

GREGG

Who is she? One of your lady-freinds?

MARGY

I'll bet its that society jane.

GREGG

This is hardly the place for a society woman. Is she drunk?

MARGY

He's given her the works

GREGG

He's what?

MARGY

Given her the works.

GREGG

He's given her what?

MARGY

He's doped her don't you understand English?

GREGG

Doped her this is awkward.

MARGY

A fine mess the dirty rat left on my hands. He's given her enough t stuff to kill a mule.

GREGG

You don't mean to tell me theres a possibility of the woman dying?

MARGY

Sure there is that is why he made a quick get-a-way. Quick get her off the floor.(Gregg puts Clara on chaise lounge. Margy exits to b bathroom.)

GREGG

Don't let her die old thing,she's a fine looking woman.

MARGY

(Enters with bottle.)If this don't bring her around, its lillies for her.

GREGG

That gentleman freind of yours was be a nice playmate.

MARGY

Don't talk. Rub her hand and rub it good

GREGG

He gave you a generous dog, he gave her plenty of the stuff while he was about it.How would he do this? He gave her enough to kill he

MARGY

BECAUSE He's a rat and always will be. Hold her head back while I

GREGG

I think she's coming to.

MARGY

Get some cold water and bathe her face.(Exit Gregg) Come on and take this. (Gregg enters with glass of water) Don't spill it all over her.

GREGG

She's bloomin lucky to be among those present.

CLARA

Where am I? Where am I?

MARGY

You know damn well where you are.

CLARA

Oh, I'm so sick.

MARGY

That's what you get for fooling around like this. You came here for a thrill. You got one but not the kind you expected. Serves you right.

GREGG

I say old dear dont you think you're rather rough on the poor thing.

Margy

Rough on her? She aint getting half what she deserves. She's one of those respectable society dames who posses as decent, and is looking for the first chance to cheat without being found out.

GREGG

Well old dear you cant blame her. All of us are looking for a little party at times.

DAWSON

(Enters) Hello Marge.

MARGY

Oh, hello.

GREGG

Pardon me old thing, I think you're intruding.

MARGY

Lay off you fool, he's a cop.

GREGG

Oh, a Bobby.

DAWSON

Officer of the law, it sounds better. What's coming off here? Manly said he saw Rocky coming out of here with a grip in his hand

MARGY

That aint a crime is it?

DAWSON

He said Rocky was in a pretty big hurry, so I thot I'd come up and see what all the haste was about.

MARGY

Had a date perhaps.

DAWSON

Yea? Who's the dame?

MARGY

A lady friend of mine.

DAWSON

A lady friend of yours? Don't look much like the sort of company you keep. That looks more like your speed over there.

GREGG

Thanks for the compliment, old thing.

DAWSON

Save your comedy till you get back to the fleet. You have a variet of friends,haven't you? This one looks like she was all in. What's wrong with her is she sick?

MARGY

She's not feeling well.

DAWSON

Too bad poor thing. Stop stalling. Come clean.What's the game?

MARGY

No game that I know of.

DAWSON

What's this women doing in your place?

MARGY

Paying me a visit.

DAWSON

Don't look much like she's enjoying her visit. Well if you wont tell me what the lay is,Maybe she will. Hey you.What are you doing with this pair of crooks?

GREGG

Pardon me, old thing,we may be a bit loose,but we're not crooks.

DAWSON

That's enough from you.Well out with it now. What's the idea? What are you doing here? Do you know what kind of a house you're in?

CLAIRE

Why- I- I-

DAWSON

The truth lady its the best way out.

CLAIRE

Why sir I was lured here.

DAWSON

By whom? (PUSH)

CLAIRE

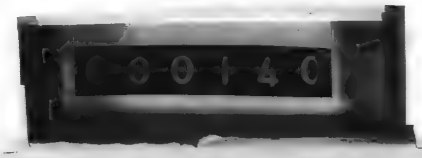
By that woman there. She brought me here.She told me a pitiful tale,thensha gave me something to drink.After that I dont remember. My jewels-they are gone.

MARGY

She's a dirty liar.

DAWSON

You shut up.



MARGY

No I wont shut-up. She's lying to you do you hear? She's trying to make me the goat.But she cant do it.She's ashamed to tell you why she came here but I will.She came here with Rocky,she camehere with him so that he could make her.

DAWSON

Wait you needn't tell me what she came here for. I know.

GREGG

Pardon me- -

DAWSON

You stay where you are. We're going on a little sight seeing tour and your going to be one of the party. Now you women get your wraps.

CLARA

You're not going to arrest me are you.

DAWSON

I'm going to take you to headquarters for further investagation.

CLARA

No,no,dont do that please. The publicity would ruin me. Isn't there some way I could fix this with you.

DAWSON

Well,perhaps.

CLARA

I understand.(Money bus)

MARGY

No you dont. This dame is going to take her medicine even if I have to go to jail.

DAWSON

You mind your own business or you will go to jail. I'm on to this game,Rocky's been up to his old tricks again,if I take you two it means I get Rocky.Youdont want him in jail,beqause you know what he'd do to you when he got out.Come on Miss,I'll see you safely out of the district.And as for you,you better take a little tip and blow.Montreal is getting a little to hot for you. That's just a hint,and you'd better take it.

MARGY

Just a minute. You were almost dead when I found you in this room. I brought you back to life,and you try to frame me to save yourself.I dont count I suppose,because I'm what I am,but I'll tell you something,I'll remember this night as long as I live. And if I ever get a chance,I'll get even with you you dirty charity,I'll get even.

CURTAIN.

SAILORS SWEETHEART BY ENTIRE COMPANY ONE CHORUS

VERSE BY ONE SAILOR.

CHORUS AND DANCE BY TWO OTHER SAILORS. ONE CHORUS

SPECIALTY BY ONE SAILOR. ONE CHORUS

ENSEMBLE DANCE BY ENTIRE COMPANY ONE CHORUS.

(Enter Jones)

JONES.

Oh senior Condez.

CONDEZ

Comon esta usted senior?

JONES

I thought this affair was going to be over at the Casino.

CONDEZ

No,no,no,no, Senior, I told you the Cafe Port iu Prince, you like it?

JONES

And who is giving the affair?

CONDEZ

We are giving this in honor of the boys of the fleet.

JONES

Some fellow to give an affair like this. I think Ill stay a while.

CONDEZ

Si,si there is a table some place.

JONES

Thank you Ill sit over here.

BELLS OF THE SEA. BARITONE SOLO. ONE CHORUS. ONE SAILOR.

IM SORRY DEAR. SOPRANO SOLO. ONE CHORUS. ONE OF THE FLEET WOMEN.

SPANISH DANCE SAILOR AND GIRL. CASTLES IN SPAIN. TWO CHORUSES.

(Enter Gregg and Margy)(Bus.greeting)

JONES

Hello there lieutenant. Sit down and have a drink. Ive been looka

for you. Say isnt that the baby from Montreal. (Margy turns) Well,well, if it isnt the beautiful blonde mama from Montreal.

MARGY

Well if it isnt the loud speaking papa. Who is your friend Gregg?

GREGG

Name is Jones.

MARGY

Jones?

JONES

Yes you remember me , baby.

MARGY

How could I ever forget you?

JONES

That was some wait you gave me that night in Montreal. If the milkman hadnt spilled the milk on me Id have been waiting there yet. Now baby when I got back I rapped on the door.(Gregg stops him)

Say what are you trying to do, high hat me? (Turns to Margy) Now listen baby, give us a kiss and well call it quits. (Gregg stops him again)

GREGG

Now take it easy.

JONES

What is she private property?

GREGG

No but dont get personal.

JONES

Yes but Im your friend. Gee if I were oonly a lieutenant I might stand some chance with her. (Turns to Margy) Now listen kid Im different and I work fast.

MARGY

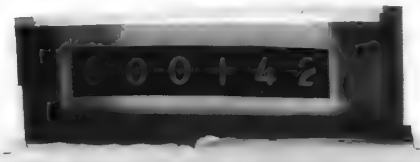
Now dont give me that business.

MYLLENBERG JOYS. ONE CHORUS. ENSEMBLE DANCING. (Applause)

WOMEN AH ONE CHORUS. ENSEMBLE ANSWERING.

SWEET MAN VERSE AND CHORUS BY MARGY (Much applause)

SHAKE THAT THING ONE CHORUS DANCE BY MARGY.(Applause)



CONDEZ

Ladies and Gentlemen, there will be dancing in the main ball room. There we will have senorita Carmentina and senor Bollentino, entertainment extroardinaire. (Applause and ensemble exits)

JONES

(Starting for ball room) Baby youd make a bull dog break his chain. (Sees captain) (Drunk sailors exit) Oh here comes the Captain.

CAPT. CARTER

ENSIGN- Lieutenant. How do you do Miss Lamont. Having a good time?

MARGY

Yes Indeed.

CONDEZ

Capitan, Comon esta usted?

CAPT CARTER

Hello Condez.

CONDEZ

Sientese aqui Capitan y Usted teniente aqui.

CAPT CARTER

Thank you Thank you.

JONES

Fix up something for the Captain.

CONDEZ

Si, si, oh waiter, clear the table, and give the Captain the best in the house. (enter Jimmy Stanton) Stanton! Usted conose a el Capitan, verdad?

JIMMY

Hello captain, how are you.

CAPT CARTER

Oh Stanton, come and sit down.

CONDEZ

(Rushing to Margy) Senorita, That is the young millionaire senor Stanton. He is son of the Stanton U.S.A. He is what you call him

inspector for his fathers plantation. He is a very fine gentleman and he is very wealthy. Eh-- Si si, t iene mucho dinero. y ojala tenga la oportunidad de conocerlo senorita. Perdone, regrese despues.

CAPT CARTER.

(Crossing to Margy) Miss lamont may I present Mr. Stanton.

MARGY

You may.

CAPT. CARTER

Mr. Stanton,Miss Lamont. Mr. Stanton, Lieutenant Gregg.

JIMMY

How do you do? (Exit Condez and Jones)

CAPT CARTER.

Pardon me lieutenant, just a moment. (Exit Capt Carter and Gregg)

JIMMY

Now dont think me foolish, but I dont suppose you remember going up the gangplank on the ship leaving Cuba for Trinidad?

MARGY

Cuba for Trinidad? Oh yes, yes.

JIMMY

You were talking to a young naval officer.

MARGY

Naval officer? Yess,yes.

JIMMY

Oh I shal never forget it. I just stood in the middle of that gangplank like a big sap, and forgot they were waiting to pull it up--- and you glanced at me. There was a certain look in your eyes.

MARGY

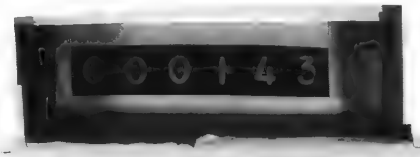
Certain look? What kind of a certain look?

JIMMY

I dont know, but I only hope you dont look at any other man that way.

MARGY

YOU silly boy.



JIMMY

And Just now I asked the Captain here who you were. I told him I thought Id met you in New York. He said that your name was Miss Lamont, and that he didnt know very much about you except that you were beautiful, and he expected that every man on the ship would want to dance with you. Then I told him that here was one man who did want to dance with you--and then we were introduced.

MARGY

Oh, I see.

JIMMY

I had to get acquainted with you some way didnt I?

MARGY

And just what was it about me that attracted you. (Music. ALWAYS)

JIMMY

Oh, I--I don know, just everything. Your eyes, theyre so marvelous-theyre heavenly and yet again-- Im afraid of them. And your hair-- and the way you smile. You know you are just perfect to me. (Getting up to dance) May I? (Asking for the dance and a kiss)(Gregg enters rear on parapet and watches them smoking silently)

MARGY

You may. (They kiss and waltz off toward ballroom) (Gregg shrugs and saunters off. Music swells and curtain falls.)

Curtain Act II. SC 1.

STARS AND STRIPES. TWO CHORUSES. CURTAIN UP ON SECOND CHORUS.

(Enter Jones and Gregg)

JONES

What is the idea of running away from the fun Gregg?

GREGG

Oh, you dont have to follow me, old fellow.

JONES

What, leave you alone on your last night in Trinidad- I should say not.

GREGG

Youd do me a great favor if youd slip along and let me have a word with her alone.

JONES

What, is she stopping here. Some class to her. So thats the kind she is, hey? Never mind, old fellow, well find a way to show her up.

GREGG

Has it ever occured to you that a girl may be wanting to go straight?

JONES

Straight? Dont make me laugh.

GREGG

Anyway shes off the game and shes off me since she met this Stanton.

JONES

Hes that rich guy isnt he? Shell get enough out of him to lay off and live comfortable ever after. Come on,Gregg,Im going over to the Casino. (Jones exits off R.)

JIMMY

(Entering from hotel left) Hello, well,well, where have you been keeping yourself. I havent seen you in the last few days.

GREGG

Ive been around here. Ive been rather busy.

JIMMY

Getting ready to leave? What is your next port?

GREGG

We leave for the States in the morning. Its my last trip as a naval officer.

JIMMY

You dont mean to say--

GREGG

Yes, my last trip, Ive sent in my resignation.

JIMMY

Well good luck old man.

GREGG

Thanks awfully.

JIMMY

Im leaving for the States myself in the morning. While youre there Im just a short way out and Id be very glad to have you spend a weekend with me. Ill show you the finest golf course in Westchester.

GREGG

Golf- thats very interesting. I used to be considered quite a golfer myself.

JIMMY

Is that so? What do you go around in?

GREGG

About 80.

JIMMY

Thats too good for me. Wont you join me in a little walk?

GREGG

In a few minutes. (Exit R. Jimmy) (Gregg turns to Waiter) Oh,Waiter, let me have a pencil.

WAITER

Yes Sir. (Gregg writes on card)

GREGG

Give this card to Miss Lamont, please.

WAITER

Yes Sir. (Exit Gregg)

REMEMBER. WALTZ. PLAYED OFF STAGE SOFTLY.

(Enter Margy. Waiter gives her card and exits)

JIMMY

(Entering from R.) Here I am.

MARGY

Why dear I thought you were down at the ball at the flafship.

JIMMY

You wouldnt go and I wouldnt go without you.

MARGY

I wasnt feeling well.

JIMMY

If its alright now, cant we still go?

MARGY

Id rather not.

JIMMY

Dear, Im going to leave for the States in the morning. When are you going to promise to marry me?

MARGY

Why weve only known each other a week. You dont know anything about me, who I am, or what I am.

JIMMY

Youre the sweetest girl in the world and thats all I want to know.

MARGY

Youre just a big boy out of college, and you dont know what youre talking about.

JIMMY

I do know what Im talking about. But its funny.

MARGY

Whats funny?

JIMMY

When Dad sent me down here to see how his plantation was running I didnt want to come. I didnt have any idea I was going to bring back the most wonderful wife in the world.(M.turns head) Why dear Youre not married already?

MARGY

Oh no, dear, no.

JIMMY

Then its all settled.

MARGY

Nothings settled only that you go back home, and youll promise to think of me sometimes, wont you?

JIMMY

I dont want to rush you honey, but Im leaving tomorrow and youll say yes-? I always get what I want and I want you. (Taps bell)

MARGY

Why, what are you doing? (Enter waiter)

JIMMY

Celebrating our engagement.

WAITER

Yes, sir.

JIMMY

Bring us a bottle of Paul Roget.

WAITER

Yes, Sir. (Waiter exits)

JIMMY

Just think of it. Tomorrow well be on our way home-Home isnt it glorious?

MARGY

What would your folks say?

JIMMY

Theyd love you because I do.

MARGY

Im not so sure about that.

JIMMY

Yes they would. Youre adorable and I love you so much.

WAITER

Yes, Sir.

JIMMY

Thanks, Waiter. Ill pour it myself.

WAITER

Yes, Sir. (Waiter exits)

JIMMY

(Lifting glass) Heres to the futeure and the dearest girl in the world.Im crazy about you Margy,theres not another girl like you.

MARGY

Lets be serious. (Jimmie Drinks)

JIMMY

Alright now were very serious. (Jimmy drinks several drinks more)

MARGY

Not so fast, dear, take it slow. (She starts to drink)

JIMMY

You little darling, what do you know about drinking?(She chokes)

MARGY

Here in the tropics, wine goes to your head, and I want you to know What youre doing.

JIMMY

Alright, now we are serious.

MARGY

Suppose you found youd made a mistake in me?

JIMMY

Im not making a mistake.

MARGY

Suppose Im not all you think I am?

JIMMY

Are you trying to frighten me? You cant do it. All I know is that I love you and youre going to be mine. Are you satisfied?

MARGY

Yes I am.

JIMMY

Then its yes?

MARGY

Yes.

JIMMY

Hurrah, Im the happiest man in Trinidad.

MARGY

Honey, not so loud. (Kiss) You domlove me dont you dear? Tell me, I want to hear you say it again.

JIMMY

I love you more than anything in the world- I love you-love you. (Pus.She pushes him away. He is abashed) Why dear, Im sorry , you were right. Wine does go to your head in the tropics, I didnt realize. But say you love me and we leave tomorrow?

MARGY

Yes, dear, Ill go. (He kisses her hand)

JIMMY

Im off to arrange for the staterooms and Ill take care of everything.

MARGY

Starting after him) Dear, dear, Damn it. (Enter Agnes)

AGNES

Margy, Margy.

MARGY

Agnes, Agnes- You poor kid, I thought you went home.

AGNES

I did, but you were right. They wouldnt let me come back.

MARGY

What youre folks?

AGNES

When I got back home, Mother was dead. If she had lived it might

have been different. But the others----

MARGY

They forgive you but they wont let you forget- Oh whats the difference? (Pats Agnes on the back)

AGNES

And when I got back to Montreal, Curly was------

MARGY

What, another jane?

AGNES

No, an over dose of morphine.

MARGY

You poor kid. But what brought you here?

AGNES

I heard you were following the fleet and doing well--and I thought travelling around would help me to forget.

MARGY

But you didnt---

AGNES

No, its all too much-- My-- Mother----(Coughs and Crying)

MARGY

You poor kid- Come on over here and have a drink. Pull yourself together. (Offers her a drink)

AGNES

Thanks. (Drinks) I been trying to get a chance to talk to you but the gobs said you were Kitting it.

MARGY

So thats what they think?

AGNES

I wanted to tell you that I saw Rocky before I left and Im afraid that he----

MARGY

I dont want to hear anything about that rat.

AGNES

Gee you must have caught that rich guy you were talking about in Montreal.

MARGY

Kid, I could have caught a dozen had I been so inclined.

AGNES

And you didnt?

MARGY

No, I did not. I guess Ive been saved up to try and forget.

AGNES

Margy, youre in love with someone.

MARGY

How did you guess?

AGNES

Who?

MARGY

A clean boy Agnes, and he loves me and wants me to marry him. A boy that believes Im straight.

AGNES

MyGawd thats wonderful. What are you going to do?

MARGY

Im sending him back to his folks. Sometimes I feel that I should tell him the truth.

AGNES

Dont do that - dont do that--What he dnt know wont hurt him.

MARGY

You mean I should marry this boy and pretend--No, I cant. Thats whats worrying me.

AGNES

Margy this is your chance.Suppose you do tell him,what good would it do.If he really loves you it wont matter to him what youve been but for Gods sake get out of this life--Just look at me-Im a wreck-My health is all gone--and Im Nothing-- (Coughs.)

MARGY

Come on, pull yourself together, youre all to pieces.

AGNES

Some times I wish I were out of it all.

MARGY

Come Aggie, brace up,Ive never seen you as bad as this before.

AGNES

Marge, promise me youll do it, promise me youll marry him, you must

God if I had your chance nothing in the world would keep me from it. Dont be a fool, it dont matter what you were--Its the kind of a wife you make that counts.

MARGY

Maybe youre right.

AGNES

I am Right. (Coughs)

MARGY

Come on, I cant let you get away like this. Let me get you a room and some clothes, and get these rags off of you.

AGNES

No Marge, what would they think of you if they saw me here--

MARGY

The whole hotel is down at the ball on the flagship.

AGNES

No Marge, I got to go-- I got to walk-- I got to think-- I may see you later-- But I got to go-- I got to go-- (Sobbing exit)

GREGG

(Entering from R.) Hello Marge, I knew theyd all be down at the ball on the flagship, and I thought this would be a good chance to have a word with you alone-- You look pretty well set here.

MARGY

Yes, he thinks Im a tourist. Its a lot different when they dont know Youve something to say to me Gregg.

GREGG

Yes, Thats why Im here.

MARGY

I know it wasnt just the right thing to do leaving you like this.

GREGG

Its a bit beyond me old dear, but theres something else I wanted to talk to you about-- The fleets leaving port in the morning, and its my last trip as a naval officer, then Im going out to Australia.

MARGY

Australia, thats pretty far, isnt it?

GREGG

Yes, but its a place where a fellow and a girl can start a new life out there.

MARGY

I see.

GREGG

You see what I mean? We could hit it off together.

MARGY

No Gregg, Im through.

GREGG

You dont understand, I mean well get married.

MARGY

Thanks, Gregg.

GREGG

Im not so bad, Marge.

MARGY

Why youre the best old scout I ever ran into. Sometimes I wonder why youre where you are.

GREGG

Its a long story, the same old tale though. Decent folks over in old England, fathers a clergyman, Im the blacksheep,-- Its not only girls that drop out of the City Directory, old dear. What do you say to my little idea?

MARGY

No Gregg, I couldnt do it.

GREGG

Why Ive got planty to live on, a beautiful little white cottage, a garden, and a church--

MARGY

My God, you sound like Agnes-- Im sorry Gregg-- Two weeks ago Id have thought that over, but now-- I cant.

GREGG

I guess I know.

MARGY

What do you mean?

GREGG

That youngster I see you walking around with every night since you struck Trinidad. Young Stanton, isnt he?

MARGY

Its just been kind of a dream, Gregg.

GREGG

I thought so. Youve changed since you met him.

MARGY

You dont understand, Gregg.

GREGG

Oh, Im no fool. Only Dont singe your wings old dear.

MARGY

Singe my wings? Dont make me laugh.

GREGG

Marge, Body doesnt mean a thing--But when its the heart it hurts.

MARGY

What do I know about a heart? To me every man is just an asset.

GREGG

Yes, and for this one chap youre giving up everything and you say you know nothing about a heart? Why Marge ever since Montreal youve been mine, and Ive been yours all of me every bit of me. There was a time I could share you with other men, but not now. Why the thought of it drives me mad almost. Tell me do you really want this other fellow? Do you really love him?

MARGY

I guess I do.

GREGG

So thats it, and all the time I thought you were only making a play for his money.

MARGY

No Gregg, I couldnt roll him of all men. From the moment I met him I knew.

GREGG

What do you mean?

MARGY

Im beginning to see things diffenrent,Gregg,since I met that boy.He made me feel ashamed. He asked me to marry him.

GREGG

Havent I asked you the same thing? Hasnt every officer in the fleet offered you the ring? And a dozen rich traders asked you to visit the altar?

MARGY

Yes, but he was the first one who as ed me while he was sober.

GREGG

And you said yes?

MARGY

Im beginning to see things different, Gregg. Why ever since Ive been old enough to know Sex Ive looked at men as hunters.Theyre filled with Sex.In the past few years Ive been a chattel to that Sex.All the bad thats in me has been put there by men. Ibegan to hate every one of them,hated them,used them for what I could get out of them,and then laughed at them.and then-then he came.

GREGG

But what about when you said you loved me?When you held me in your soft arms and kissed me and told me you loved me?Do you think you can get away from me as easy as this.To walk into another mans life and tell him the same things.Then all the beautiful things you told me you didnt mean?

MARGY

You dont understand,Gregg.When I held you in my arms and kissed you. When I felt your strong warm body close to mine i wanted you, Ineeded you,I loved you more than any man Id ever known, dont you understand Gregg. I loved you in that one way. But this is different.

Its a clean wonderful love I have for this boy. Im sorry,but I cant help it. God, its good to be in love this way even if I have to pay for it with tears.

GREGG

All I can say is dont be looking for heartaches. If this fellow really loves you I suppose thats all there is to it. But remember if ever you want me Im yours, all yours.

MARGY

Dont talk to me that way Gregg. I suppose I shouldnt be doing what what I am to you--But I cant help it.

GREGG

But you know your positions are pretty far apart. Why that boys folks are real folks, theyre aristocrats. Tell me are you sure that its really love thats drawing him to you?

MARGY

Im sure.

GREGG

Oh well, when ever you want me youll know where a word reaches me. What I said about Australia goes. Its a long way and far between, but its a place where a fellow and a girl can start a new life there.

MARGY

Gregg, dont leave me like this. Youve given me the chance. Im not ungrateful, but its things just happen,thats all, that we cant explain.

GREGG

Its alright Marge, we all have to float with the tide.(He exits suppressing a sob. MEDITATION OF THAIS IS HEARDplaying softly on the flagship in the bay. Jimmy enters and goes to Margy.)

JIMMY

Ive arranged everything,we leave tomorrow.(Noise off stage of suppressed shouts and murmurs as though a town were awakening to a catastrophe. The only distinguishable word id "OVERBOARD".)

MARGY

Whats that?

JIMMY

Theyre crowding down at the docks. Lets go see?

MARGY

No, no, wait.

JIMMY

Dont be nervous, youre all upset.

MARGY

Go, see what it is.

JIMMY

Ill find out. (Calls offstage) Whats going on down there?

VOICE

ONE OF THOSE FIRST WOMEN JUMPED IN TO THE BAY!

MUSIC AND VOICES SWELL AND FADE . MARGY nearly faints.)

JIMMY

Nothing to worry us, dear. Just one of those poor wretches that follow the fleet.

MUSIC AND VOICES SWELL TO A CRESCENDO.....

CURTAIN ACT II.

CURTAIN

(Jenkins and Robert Stanton on at rise)

MARIE

(Enters with a vase of flowers) I'm taking these to the young lady room,sir.

STANTON

Yes,yes,go ahead Marie. See that everything is ready Marie.

MARIE

(Exit) Yes sir.

STANTON

They ought to be along any minute. (Exit)

MARIE

(Enters) If he would only keep his watch in his pocket,it hasn't left his hand since Mr Jimmy went to the station to meet the train

JENKINS

Well any man would be anxioux to meet his future daughter-in-law.

MARIE

Yes when he dont know very much about her.

JENKINS

She's evidently very wealthy. Mr Jimmy met her while she was touring the world.

MARIE

Yes. She travel all alone,no chaperone.

JENKINS

Oh, the days of chaperones are past.Wealthy orphan,no doubt. Marguerite LaMont is her name.

MARIE

Marguerite LaMont. That sound like a french name.

JENKINS

Mr Jimmy calls her Margy.

MARIE

Short for Marguerite. French decent no doubt. A Mr Stanton [redacted] worry about is what church she belong to.

JENKINS

I haven't any idea.

STANTON

(Enters) When they arrive Jenkins call me,I'll be in the library.

JENKINS

Yes sir.

STANTON

I'm going to lose a couple of hours sleep as it as,I have to get up early to be at business. (Exit)

MARIE

If he were not at his desk at nine A.M. to the minute,the world would come to an end. (Auto Horn)

JENKINS

System,mydear, that's what makes a man successful. (Exit) (Enter)

JIMMY

(Enters with Margy) Home at last darling. By jove it was hard work to get you to come out here.Take this to Miss LaMont's room Marie,and wait just a minute. Well darling how do you like it?

MARGY

This is the first case of cold feet I ever had.

JIMMY

Why darling? Mother and dad are just a pair of peaches. You'll love them,you cant help it.

MARGY

That parts alright.I know I couldn't help loving your dad and your mother,but the question is,how about me? Am I the kind of a girl they've pictured for their only son' You know parents are funny.

JIMMY

Mother and dad are just crazy to meet you.I've talked to them about you ever since I came back from Trinadad.Let me take your wraps.Take these also Marieand Jenkins you may go.(Exit Marie and Jenkins) (Enter mother)

JIMMY

Oh, there you are mother. I've been looking for you. Mother this is Margy. (Bus)

CLARA

How do you do.

JIMMY

I hope you'll like each other,anyway.

MARGY

Well, we'll understand each other anyway. (Enter Stanton)

JIMMY

Oh, dad.

STANTON

Well son?

JIMMY

Margy this is dad.

STANTON

Well,well,so this is the young lady that Jimmy's been raving about ever since he came back from Trinadad.Why he's been going around with his heart in hisfist.

JIMMY

Oh, dad.You're telling tales now.

STANTON

I'm going to show you right up.Margy-of course I'll call you Margy?You've certainly worked a great change in my boy. He used to read nothing but the sporting news-but now,he reads the furniture ads,isn't that right Caroline?

CLARA

Yes.

STANTON

I hope you're going to like it out here Margy.

MARGY

I'm sure I will.

STANTON

You've never been to our little town before?

HARDY

This is one place I've missed.

STANTON

Enjoy travelling, dont you?Jimmy s ys you are a regular globe trotter.Well, you'll find everything here. We've got everything they've got in the big cities,parks,Y.M.C.A.buildings,churches-or-which one do you attend?

HARDY

Ones as good as another to me.

CLARA

Naturally,I presume-travelling so much.

HARDY

Yes,naturally,when in Rome do as Rome does,or again when inTrinadad follow Trinadads customs,or Montreal- -

CLARA

I've visited Montreal myself,Miss Lamont.

HARDY

Why you dont say-we can compare notes.

STANTON

You two girls'll have a lot to talk about.Jimmy I'll bet mothers just dying to get acquainted and here's your old talkative dad not giving her a chance.

CLARA

I would like a few minutes alone with Miss Lamont.

STANTON

Come on Jimmy-we'll let the ladies talk, so we'll drink to their health.

JIMMY

Alright dad.

STANTON

Then we'll let you ladies take a drink to our health.(Exit Jimmy and Stanton)

HARDY

What's your idea?

CLARA

You certainly dont intend to marry my son.

HARDY

That's your idea.

CLARA

I'll not let him make such a mistake.I'll tell him what you are.

[illegible]

[illegible]

CLARA

I'll tell him everything.Everything that happened during my visit to Montreal.

HARDY

So, you think. You haven't the nerve. If you did,I'd have better opinion of you. You couldn't sacrifice yourself for [illegible] that [illegible] thinking of.

CLARA

I'm thinking of my boy' well [illegible] certainly [illegible] better [illegible].

HARDY

I know my [illegible] nothing to [illegible] about.I'll admit [illegible] better life,yes,[illegible] better mother too.

CLARA

[illegible]

HARDY

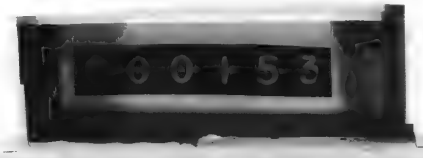
[illegible]

CLARA

I'll not permit a woman of the streets to [illegible] like [illegible].

HARDY

Say, you've got nerve putting yourself on a par with [illegible]. I'm not trying to claim myself. but you've [illegible] for other reasons.



CLARA

Stop.

MARGY

No,I don't stop.I'[illegible] the [illegible] supposed respectability and show you what you are.

CLARA

I'll not listen.

MARGY

Oh,yes you'll. You've [illegible] women of my type.If our [illegible] [illegible] I love you.

[illegible]

No,no.

[illegible]

Yes,[illegible] it.

[illegible]

[illegible]

I'[illegible]

I'[illegible]

[illegible]

I [illegible]

CLARA

I can understand your viewpoint,but even if this marriage was to take place,you could never live down the sins of the past. People would talk.

MARGY

They'd talk anyway.

CLARA

Yes,but we are governed to a great extent by what they say and think.

MARGY

Let them talk.We love each other and that's all that matters.

CLARA

Dont say he loves you. It's ridiculous. He is a boy,scarcely out of his teens.You are perhaps the first woman he has ever come into close contact with. It's only natural that you should attract him with the physical attraction that a woman has for a be so young.

MARGY

All I've been is a physical attraction to men.I'm sick and tired of being that sort of thing.Now I want a man whose love goes beyond that.

CLARA

If you should get married,you'd find out just how far it goes.

MARGY

Well,I'll find out before.Here.

CLARA

What do you mean?

MARGY

You know what I mean. You're a pretty wise gal yourself.

CLARA

You dont mean that you'd use my home- -

MARGY

Well, you used mine.

CLARA

But- - -

We'll at least know where we stand.(Enter Jimmy and Stanton)

JIMMY

Dad and I think you've had enough time to get acquainted. Mother, dont you just love her?

MARGY

She's just crazy about me.

CLARA

Yes,son,she's-very-interesting.

STANTON

And trying to keep her all to yourself. Now thats a shame. But you wait until after business hours to-morrow. I'll take charge of Margy.You'll have to tell me all about your travels and your experiences. I'll warrant you had a lot of them didn't you?

MARGY

I'll say I did.

STANTON

Well we'll have a lot of time to talk that over,I must be going.

JIMMY

Dad,your not leaving us?

STANTON

Well son you know I get up early,and its pretty late for me. Margy'll excuse me,I know.

MARGY

Of course I will.

STANTON

I'm so glad you're here child. You'll be such good company for Mrs Stanton.Wont she dear?

CLARA

Yes-yes-indeed.

MARGY

That's so sweet of you Mrs Stanton.You dont know how I appreciate your feelings toward me.

Thank you.I presume you've a great deal to say to each other. I'd only be intruding. When you are ready to retire Miss Lamont just ring for the maid,she'll show you to your room.

MARGY

Thanks.

STANTON

My goodness. It's past my hour for retiring.

JIMMY

Dad always goes to bed early.He hasn't been up as latee as this in six months.

STANTON

I'm the first one up in thishouse. Have to catch an early morning train to get to the city. You'll forgive me I'm sure.Besides you and Jimmy have a lot to say to each other.

JIMMY

Well, now dad.

STANTON

Don't make any excuses. I was a youngerster once myself. And say Jimmy,if Margy should feel like a bite,you'll find a little spread all ready on the dinning room table.

JIMMY

Thanks dad.I-I never did think of asking Margy- -

STANTON

Jimmy even Cupid has to have his dinner.Make yourself at home child.Get acquainted. If there's anything you want and you dont see it,just ask for it.

MARGY

You're awfully good Mr Stanton.

STANTON

I want you to like Jimmy's folks,child.

MARGY

Thanks-Why I'm sure- -

STANTON

I'm sure that you will and I'm going to see that you do.

NANCY

Good night Mr Stanton.

JIMMY

'Night dad.(Exit Stanton)

NANCY

Your dad is a prince.

CLARA

You'll pardon me I'm sure.

NANCY

Surely.

CLARA

When you are ready to retire,MissLaMont,Jimmy will ring for the maid, she'll show you to your room.Good night.

JIMMY

Good night mother.

NANCY

Good night Mrs Stanton. (Exit Mrs Stanton)

JIMMY

You'll have to learn to call her mother,you know.

NANCY

Say Jimmy, that'll be the hardest job I ever tackled.

JIMMY

Why, dont you like mother?

NANCY

There's no question to it.

JIMMY

I'm so glad.It's wonderful to have you here with me dear.

NANCY

Yes Jimmy,its been a wonderful night.

JIMMY

I was afraid you didn't mean what you promised in Trinedad--I had such a hard time getting you here. You didn't know what-sleepless nights I've had thinking of you and being afraid------

NANCY

Afraid of what?

JIMMY

That maybe you-you found out that you didn't love me after all, and perhaps met some other fellow and---oh, hang it, Nancy a man thinks up all kinds of things when he's in love with a girl.

NANCY

You weren't sure of me?

JIMMY

How could I be, with you so far away, but now to-night, you're in my own home--I'm content for the first time in months. You do love me don't you?

NANCY

Love you?Jimmy I never knew what it was all about until I met you.

JIMMY

And we'll b married soon ,Want we?

NANCY

Do you really want to marry me?

JIMMY

Why of course ---what do you suppose?

NANCY

You see I've been kind of worried too , I thought maybe some other girl---------

JIMMY

Theres no other girl in the world for me, save you.

NANCY

And why just me?

JIMMY

I love you.

NANCY

.....?

NANCY

Why do you love me Jimmy?

JIMMY

I love you because your different , you fascinate me,you draw me to you,your wonderful and I adore you.

NANCY

Come on over here dear.

JIMMY

I've been telling what I like about you now you tell me what you l like about me.Tell----

NANCY

Therex so many things about you that I li: e _but I never did like bright lights.

JIMMY

I'll turn them down(bus.) There is that better? Now tell me what you like about me?

NANCY

I like your ears.

JIMMY

You like my ears?(hand bus)Who do you think came into the office to-day?

NANCY

Who dear?

JIMMY

Lelutenant Gregg.

NANCY

What did he want?

JIMMY

When I left him in Trinadad I told him where I lived and asked him if he ever came to New York to spend the Week-end with me, so of course when he came to the office I asked him out.

NANCY

Take that thing off.(tie bus)

JIMMY

NANCY

Very pretty y_ what size collar do you wear?

JIMMY

15 1/2(Kiss bus?)God I'vemNEVER kissed anyone like that before----k-k

NANCY

You have.

JIMMY.

I swear I haven't.

NANCY

You have(Kissbus)

JIMMY

I'll ring for the maid.

NANCY
Don't you show me to my room.

JIMMY

Yes dear- good night dear.

CURTAIN.

(Enter Jimmy. Picks up mocktie. Hurriedly exits.)

(Enter Robert Stanton dressed for business. Fills flask.)

(Enter Jimmy now fully dressed, but he is a little nervous)

STANTON

Hello, Son, I didnt know you were up. Why didnt you breakfast with me?

JIMMY

Why-- I dont know-- I--

STANTON

I suppose youre so happy that you cant even sleep in peace.

JIMMY

Dad, you like her, dont you?

STANTON

Of course I like her. Any man would have to like her. Shes a fine girl. Youre just like your old Dad, a good picker.

JIMMY

Im so glad.

STANTON

Yes, but I cant let your happiness make me late for business. Ill take the train and you can come down later in the car.

JIMMY

Must I go into the city today?

STANTON

Yes, Son, I need you about that Hayden affair. Sorry to take you away from Margy, but you can leave as soon as we settle with Hayden.

JIMMY

But cant you let that go till later. That deal is practically closed. Hell be in today, you really dont need me. Besides that Lieutenant Gregg is coming in.

STANTON

Lieutenant Gregg? Whos he?

JIMMY

Hes that English officer that came into the office today. Hes coming in on the next train.

STANTON

Well, alright, son, perhaps I can let you stay. Say good morning to Margy and tell her that I hope she slept well.

JIMMY

I will, thanks. (Stanton exits)

MARGY

(Entering from R. Jimmy sees her) Good morning, monsieur.

JIMMY

Oh Marie, have you seen Mother?

MARIE

Oui monsieur, shes not feeling very well, sir. Shes having her breakfast in her room.

JIMMY

Wants the Doctor with Mother?

MARIE

A bad headache, I think sir. (Marie exits L.)(Jimmy exits R.)

(Jenkins enters from L. as Margy comes on from her room)

MARGY

Good morning, Jenkins.

JENKINS

Good morning madam. (Crossing over.) Does Madam wish anything?

MARGY

No, if I want something Ill ring.

JENKINS

Very well madam. (Exits off R.)

MARGY

I dont like this Madam business. (Jimmy enters from R.)

JIMMY

Margie. (He goes over to her on the divan with a worried look and kisses her. Margy notices his worried look.)

MARGY

Whats the matter, you look worried.

JIMMY

Mothers not feeling very well this morning.

MARGY

Thats too bad. Whats the matter with her?

JIMMY

Oh, I guess its her nerves again.

MARGY

Is there anything I can do. Er--has she been saying anything about last night?

JIMMY

No, but she seems upset, I imagine its about last night-- I wonder if she-- I wonder if she knows about last night--You and I. Oh dear why did you let me go to your room. Its the thing Ive been fighting against ever since I met you.

MARGY

Perhaps Id better not stay here?

JIMMY

What do you mean--what do you mean?

MARGY

Well, your mother isnt feeling well,--and youre all upset---

JIMMY

Why--Margy--

MARGY

You want me to stay?

JIMMY

Want you? I want you always, always. Oh, dont you understand--I love you, love you. I realize it now more than ever. To lose you would be to lose evry bit of happiness out of my life--I couldnt live without you.

MARGY

Jimmy, youre mad.

JIMMY

Yes mad about you dear. Well get married at once--

MARGY

Married!

JIMMY

Margy--of course--there was never any other thought in my mind. You hold everything in the world for me. Well be happy together you and I. (Hold her in his arms and kisses her) Why dear I couldnt leave you out of my sight long enough to join Dad at the office today.

MARGY

You should have attended to business and--and--

J

And what?

MARGY

Youve got me so nervous, Jimmy, I dont know what I did want to say.

JIMMY

There I forgot about Lieutenant Gragg again. Ive got to go meet him at once. I cant think of anything but you, you see?

MARGY

But why did you invite him here?

JIMMY

I think has a fine fellow. He seemed very much interested in you. He asked how you were feeling.

MARGY

Oh, has a wonderful man and all that, but I wanted to be alone with you, dear.

JENKINS

(Entering from L.) The car is waiting, Mr.Stanton.

JIMMY

Very well, Jenkins. (Exit Jenkins)(Jimmy rises and kisses her) I wont be long sweetheart.

MARGY

Hurry back, dear. (Jimmy exits) (Margy rises and after looking off at Jimmy leaving, makes several ludicrous attempts to rearrange the furnishings of the room. the result is a garrish display of taste)

CAROLINE

(Entering from R.) Good morning, Miss Lamont.

MARGY

Oh, good morning-I I--was just making a few changes here--to kind of suit myself.

CAROLINE

So I see.

MARGY

I thought that thing would look better over here and this thing would look better over here. (She is wiping her hands on a brocade)

CAROLINE

Well-well- Hm--

MARGY

(Holding up the brocade) Oh whats this thing supposed to be?

CAROLINE

Oh goodness, that thing is supposed to be a brocade from Marie Antoinette, Queen of France.

MARGY

Oh, is that what that thing is supposed to be?

CAROLINE

And this thing is supposed to have been worn by Madame duBarry when she used her wiles on King Louis IV.

MARGY

What a break that jane got! I remember reading about that baby.

CAROLINE

Oh my nerves, my nerves.

MARGY

Jimmy said you weren't feeling very well,and I was going in to see how you were but i thought I had better not after theargument last night.

CAROLINE

Yes, I forgive you for taking the attitude you did. I realize I was quite harsh with you, but you didnt understand my feelings in the matter.

MARGY

No, I guess you didnt understand mine.

CAROLINE

At first I thought you came here in a spirit of revenge.

MARGY

Say, I didnt have any idea I was going to meet you here. I should say not! But that was a pretty mean trick you pulled on me that night in Montreal. After the story you told, I could have done time.

CAROLINE

Im sorry but I have a clearer understanding of your problem now.

MARGY

Im glad you have. Of course we all make mistakes.

CAROLINE

Yes, Ive made mistakes too. I only caught myself in time. You dont know the agony, the mental suffering Ive endured on account of that Montreal affair.

MARGY

I dont know how you ever fell for that guy. Of course with me it was more business than anything else.

CAROLINE

It was my first and last experience of anything like that. I swear to you from that nigh to this Ive given all of my love, everyone of my thoughts to my husband and boy. God, what a lesson it was to me, my nerves go to pieces at the very thought of it.

MARGY

Dont worry about the past. Thats my motto. Always think of what youre going to do tomorrow.

CAROLINE

And what are you going to do tomorrow? You hold my boys future in your hands. Some day hell find out-- and then, dont you see what itll be?

MARGY

He loves me and it wont matter.

CAROLINE

Oh,yes it will matter.Hell never forgive you for deceiving him.Hell hate you and youll both be miserable.

MARGY

I--I--dont believe it.

CAROLINE

These thing caf never remain a secret-Some day they will come to life, and even though he did love you well enough to forgive, what would it be for him, dreading the very meeting of every man he sees thinking that perhaps his wife, oh, dont you understand it would be enough to madden him, and you, how would you feel? You would never know a moment of peace.

MARGY

Youre sort inly not drawing a pretty picture.

CAROLINE

Yes but Im drawing a true picture. Tell me--youll give him up,please? (Margy turns her head away. Marie enters dressed for the street) Oh Marie are you going out?

MARIE

Madame said I could-- the others have all gone on ahead.

CAROLINE

Oh yes,yes, Id forgotten, our neighbors cook, youre all invited to her wedding. My nerves are in such a state,I dont remember.

MARIE

If Madame wish me to remain--

CAROLINE

No, you go, but call up the druggist, and tell him to send over the nerve prescription Dr. Gordon left for me.

MARIE

Wui, Madame.

CAROLINE

Has Watkins returned from the station?

MARIE

I think not, madame. (AUTO HORN OFF STAGE) I think it is th car now. (Marie exits and returns later followed by Jimmy and Greg dressed in civilian clothes. Marie exits again)

JIMMY

Come right in lieutenant.

GREGG

Thank you kindly.

JIMMY

Mother this is Lieutenant Gregg.

CAROLINE

How do you do lieutenant Gregg. (Caroline and Gregg recognize each other but before Gregg gets a chance to admit it Margy jabs him unseen by Jimmy. Gregg and Caroline falter in their greetings)

MARGY

(to Jimmy) Oh dear--

CAROLINE

Youll pardon me lieutenant Gregg, but Im not feeling well. Ill see you later.

GREGG

I [illegible] your indisposed. Its quite alright, I quite un-[illegible]

JIMMY

[illegible] isnt quite herself today.

MARGY

No, shes not feeling well.

JIMMY

Now dear that the lieutenant is here Id like to know him around the place and wont you join us?

MARGY

[illegible]ondy, I most feel that [illegible] out today- [illegible]

JANKINS

(Entering from h.) Your father would like to see you,mr.stanton.

JIMMY

Pardon me, Ill be right back. (Exit Jimmy, [illegible])

GREGG

Isnt that the woman from Montreal?

MARGY

Of course it is. Who did you think it was?

GREGG

I wasnt quite sure. I was just going to ask her when you started all this sort of business. (Indicating the jabs she had given him)

MARGY

Thats all I need around here, just one bright remark from you.

GREGG

But doesnt he know? (She goes over to piano)

MARGY

No he doesnt know.

GREGG

Arent you going to tell him?

MARGY

No I m going to let you tell him.(Bus at piano.She plays HOME SWEET HOME. He watches her smoking silently)

GREGG

(At end of piece) That doesnt sound a bit like you Marge.

MARGY

Its not supposed to be me.(Starts to play blues number. They talk as she is playing, she stopping just long enough to answer him.)

GREGG

Thats more like you, Marge. Youre looking beautiful,Marge, more beautiful than ever.

MARGY

Yeah!

GREGG

Youre not saying how I look?

MARGY

Youre looking all right.

GREGG

There was a time I looked rather good to you.

MARGY

You look the same to me now.

GREGG

But how do you like me in civilian clothes?

MARGY

They look alright. But I think I like the uniform better.

GREGG

Why?

MARGY

I dont know, I guess its because Im so patriotic. (Enter Jimmy)

JIMMY

What is my little sweetheart doing, entertaining?

MARGY

Not tonight, dear.

JIMMY

[illegible] change your mind and join us, dear.

MARGY

No, [illegible] back, [illegible].

JIMMY

[illegible]. Come along lieutenant, we'll go.

GREGG

You dont care to come too?

MARGY

No I dont care to [illegible] too.

GREGG

Will you be here when I get back?

MARGY

[illegible] here when you [illegible] back. [illegible] Jenkins)

JENKINS

(Does Caroline entering) Have I permission to [illegible] thing.

MARGIE

Yes, you may go.

JENKINS

Thank you, madam. (Door bell ringsx)(Jenkins exits and returns with a card on a salver)

CAROLINE

(Looking at card) Show the gentleman in.(Jenkins exits and returns ushering in Rocky Waldron) (Jenkins exits) And you have the impudence to come back here.

ROCKY

Your little boy friend is broke again.

CAROLINE

I refuse to give you any more money.

ROCKY

Then I park the body here until you do.

CAROLINE

I cant let you stay here.

ROCKY

Id be a handy man to have around the house. That husband of yours is an old gink. A young chap like me isnt to be found every where.

CAROLINE

You must leave.

ROCKY

Be reasonable you dont want to lose a home like this and a husband with plenty of jack.

CAROLINE

(Rising) But I cant let you have any more maoney.

ROCKY

You cant bluff me, Caroline. You play a bum poker hand.

CAROLINE

I cant let you stay here. You must go. My husband, my boy, oh for Gods sake please go, go.

ROCKY

I dont mind taking a little jewelry with me. What a nice new collection you have. That husband of yours does like to drape you in gems. By the way what did you tell him you did with the others.

CAROLINE

I told him they were stolen.

ROCKY

Well tell him the same thing about these. (She is standing by Margys door and as he makes a grab for her she picks up a gun from a table and unseen by Rocky is about to shoot him when Margy enters and takes the gun away from her hiding it behind her back. Rocky is astounded at her presence there.) (To Margy) You? what are you pulling here?

CAROLINE

He threatened to tell my husband about Montreal unless I gave him money.

MARGY

Dont my little pet know that blackmail is against the law?

ROCKY

Its none of your business.

MARGY

Yes but is going to make it my business. You know youre not in Montreal now dearie. No to be exact youre just 204 miles from there. Youre in the States now, get out your little map. Rocky Waldron, alias Gentleman Jack wanted for several things including murder.

ROCKY

Oh I did get your pulling, if you think Id let you get away with it. Youre mine, you belong to me.(He starts at her. She draws a chair between them) You stopped my allowance in Montreal but its going to start again here. (Turning to Carol ne) Youre going to come across with that Jack. Were going to blow this town right now. (Margy goes to telephone) What are you going to do?

MARGY

Take a reservation dear. Now just where would my little pet care to spend his next twenty or thirty years. I know a beautiful place down south dear, called Atlanta, where I know theyre waiting to welcome you with open arms.

ROCKY

You think so?

MARGY

Or maybe you dont care for the warm climate. Or I could very easily arrange a beautiful trip up the Hudson, marvelous scenery dear, oh

Gorgeous scenery. And where you get free tonsorial exquisite. In other words the closest haircut you ever had. And Baby, the classiest suit of clothes, you know sort of Zebra effect. I can just see it draped on that perfect figure of yours.

ROCKY

Who do you think youre kidding. You trying to waste my time around here why Id------- (Margy brings gun out on him. he recoils in fear) (She takes receiver of phone and calmly asks operator.)

MARGY

Hello, police headquarters, yes please hurry. (To Rocky) Mmmm--I can just see it drapped on that perfect figure of yours. Hello, police headquarters? This is the Robert Stanton residence, boulevard road, yes, will you kindly send someone here immediately, yes, to take a desperate character, yes please hurry, thank you.

ROCKY

So youd turn me up after all Ive done for you?

MARGY

After all youve done for me? A fine thing you did when you left this woman on my hands. If she hadnt come to, Id be in jail yet.

ROCKY

Id have come back, Id have got you out.

MARGY

Yes you would. yes you would.

ROCKY

Come on Marge, your not going to turn me up. Why they're on my trail now. Thats why I came here. I jsut wanted some jack to make a get away. Please dont turn me up.

MARGY

Al right rat. Ill give you a chance. ~~Why if I didn't have~~ Escaped convict 3844. Ive got a pretty good memory havent I? Why if I didnt have a certain amount of refinement, Id kick your teeth all over this floor. Now blow bum, blow. Not that way, you ought to know better than that. Come on, come on. (Rocky exits hastily) Where do you keep this thing.(Indicating the revolver)

CAROLINE

Just put it on the table.

MARGY

(writing on a pad on the table)(She hands Caroline a piece of paper)

Now any time your little boyfriend should forget his promise and come back, a little phone call will put him right where he belongs.

CAROLINE

Thank youvery much. When he threatened to tell my husband about Montreal I thought about my boy and everything. I picked up that gun and I would have shot him.

MARGY

You must never do that. You must never shoot anyone.

CAROLINE

Oh why did I do it? I went mad. (~~Telephone~~ Door bell rings) Oh the police are here, what are you going to tell them.

MARGY

Now dont worry, I know how to handle those babies. (Exits to door)

POLICEMAN

(Off stage) Alright Mike you stay outside.

VOICE

(Off stage) Look out Al, has dangerous.

POLICEMAN

(Entering with Margy) Where the bottle, lady.

MARGY

I'm very sorry officer. But there has been a slight mistake on our part.

POLICEMAN

Why the report at headquarters was to come and get a desperate character.

MARGY

Yes he was desperate, in the beginning, very desperate, wasnt he Mrs Stanton.

CAROLINE

Yes he was very desperate. You see we ladies were all alone. The servants have gone to a wedding.

MARGY

Yes the butler and the maid, they have a friend,a cook. And she just got back from her honeymoon and he going to be married tonight.

CAROLINE

Why she hasnt had her honeymoon as yet.

MARGY

Oh, I dont know how it is, but I will make those mistakes. Yes, shes going to be married tonight and tomorrow night shes going to h have her honeymoon. I will do these things. And you see, we ladies were here alone. And this man, he came in, and he wanted money, he wanted carfare, he was going someplace. And of course we ladies, we felt that we didnt care to give it to him. And then he became very annoyed, Oh very angry. But after a while he cooled off and he begin to see things our way, and he left. I dont think hell be back, in fact Im sure he wont. (Start to flirt with officer in her attempt to make him believe her) So you see officer, a slight mistake and very sorry to have troubled you,really.

POLICEMAN

(Starting to exit) Its alright lady, no harm done. (Stops. Comes to Margy) I beg your pardon. Havent I see you someplace before?

MARGY

I beg pardon?

POLICEMAN

Havent I seen you someplace before?

MARGY

Well Ive been someplace.

POLICEMAN

Dont you remember me?

MARGY

I cant say that I do.

POLICEMAN

Sailor Gordon?

MARGY

Do you mind stepping out here for just a minute? (Starts to exit)

POLICEMAN

Coitenly. (They both exit to the door. Caroline stands and looks out after them thoughtfully. After a space Margy returns and cannot look Mrs Stanton in the face. She turns and goes to her room in silence.)(After she has entered her room Jimmy and Gregg enter)

JIMMY

Mother, has there been any trouble here?

CAROLINE

Why no son, why?

JIMMY

I saw Warren and he said he saw some officers coming in here.

CAROLINE

Yes they were here but they had the wrong place, darling.

JIMMY

Im so glad. We certainly did hurry to get here, didnt we Lieut?

GREGG

We whizzed, what?

JIMMY

Mother, wheres Margy?

CAROLINE

Up in her room.

JIMMY

Mother, you havent been saying anything to offend her have you?

CAROLINE

Of course not son. (Margy enters dressed to go away and carrying a bag. They all turn and stare at her.)

JIMMY

Why,dear, what the matter?

MARGY

Im leaving, dear.

JIMMY

Youre leaving? Why?

MARGY

Do you remember that last night in Trinidad?

JIMMY

How could I ever forget it?

MARGY

Do you remember the woman that threw herself into the bay?

JIMMY

Why yes, of course. But what has that got to do with us?

MARGY

I was no better than she.

JIMMY

What are you saying?

MARGY

I was one of those women.

JIMMY

You? Why thats not true!

MARGY

Ask Gregg. (Gregg turns away ashamed to look at him)

JIMMY

I cant believe. (Sits down heartbroken. Puts head in hands)

MARGY

Mrs. Stanton. Im giving back your boy. Im sure youll teach him to forget me.

CAROLINE

But you are not going back to that life? (Gregg appeals to her mutely to remember his feeling for her)(She looks at him and smiles)

MARGY

No, Im going straight-------To Australia.(Holds out hand to Gregg)

FINAL CURTAIN.